

Jahan Robert Wilcox



SUMMARY

After a decade on the front lines of political campaigns—developing strategic communications plans, managing crisis communications, building relationships with reporters and driving press coverage—I'd like to work communications for General Scott Pruitt at the EPA.

EXPERIENCE

Doug Burgum for Governor

July 2016 – December 2016

Communications Director – Fargo, North Dakota

- Managed the communications of former top Microsoft executive Doug Burgum's successful gubernatorial campaign.
- Responsible for debate prep, conducted media training and led the post-election communications during the transition.

Marco Rubio For President

June 2015 – April 2016

Director of Rapid Response – Washington, D.C.

- On-the-record spokesman who worked aggressively with national and local reporters that resulted in over 25 front page stories with newspapers across the country.
- Managed the debate rapid response operation and created every debate response document that instantly provided information regarding the candidate's statements to reporters and grassroots supporters.
- Planted questions and provided opposition research with network news reporters and producers before they interviewed our opponents, which was used on live television.
- Responsible for regional media with an emphasis on the early primary states of Iowa, Nevada, Texas and Florida.
- Oversaw the rollout of congressional endorsements and announcements of every Rubio state leadership team.

Joni Ernst For U.S. Senate

July 2014 – January 2015

Senior Advisor – Des Moines, Iowa

- On-the-record spokesman who developed and implemented the communications plan that *The New York Times* called the biggest upset of the 2014 election cycle. Ernst was the first Iowa woman ever elected to Congress.
- Constructed a narrative that successfully defined our opponent as out of touch. Worked so well that *The Washington Post* called him the worst candidate of the 2014 cycle.
- Devised a line of attack against our opponent for missing Veterans' Affairs committee hearings. *The Washington Post*, *The Associated Press*, and *The Des Moines Register* each described it as one of the most effective messaging hits of the year.
- Created a dual track narrative where national reporters covered Iowa-specific topics and local reporters covered Washington-specific topics that amplified our candidate's strength and opponent's weaknesses.
- Worked with the candidate extensively in debate prep and managed the rapid response during debates.

Republican National Committee (RNC)

February 2014 – July 2014

Director of Rapid Response – Washington, D.C.

- On-the-record spokesman that responded to events from the White House, Hillary Clinton or Congressional Democrats.
- Worked closely with the National Republican Senatorial Committee in messaging regarding the top targeted races.
- Wrote individually tailored releases and research documents for state parties and Senate campaigns.

Ken Cuccinelli For Governor

January 2013 – December 2013

Senior Communications Advisor – Springfield, Virginia

- Led the opposition messaging operation focused on exposing the business and political record of our opponent.
- Developed a surrogate program that utilized state legislators and business leaders to amplify the campaign's message.
- Recruited and hired staff who worked in the campaign's communications, research and digital departments.

National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC)

April 2011 – January 2013

National Press Secretary – Washington, D.C.

- On-the-record spokesman and worked with campaigns to develop and implement their messaging strategy.
- Key member of the communications team that elected Jeff Flake of Arizona and Deb Fischer of Nebraska to the Senate.

Republican National Committee (RNC)

October 2009 – February 2011

Western Regional Press Secretary – Washington, D.C.

- On-the-record spokesman for the Republican Party and handled the communications for 14 states and 48 media markets.
- Staffed the RNC Chairman for his trips to Arizona, California, Florida, Nevada and Washington State.

Nevada Republican Party

June 2010 – November 2010

Communications Director – Las Vegas, Nevada

- Deployed from the RNC and NRSC to manage the press operations opposing Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, the top target for the 2010 midterm election cycle.
- Aggressively pitched and shaped stories with national and local reporters regarding Harry Reid's record and statements.

Senator Roger Wicker

May 2008 – October 2009

Press Secretary – Washington, D.C.

- Developed and implemented Senator Wicker's strategic communications plan, which included an extensive plan about the work being done to rebuild the Gulf Coast following Hurricane Katrina.
- Coordinated press outreach with federal agencies, along with other Senate and House offices.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell

January 2007 – May 2008

Deputy Press Secretary – Washington, D.C.

- Consulted with all 48 Republican Senate Press Offices to streamline their communications strategies.
- Worked on background with national and regional reporters to communicate the Republican leadership priorities.

Republican National Committee (RNC)

February 2006 – January 2007

Press Assistant – Washington, D.C.

- Compiled a daily media impact summary, which was distributed to RNC Senior Staff and White House Aides.

Senator Norm Coleman

May 2005 – February 2006

Staff Assistant – Washington, D.C.

- Responsible for administrative duties, which included setting up conference calls and securing tours in the White House.

EDUCATION

St. Norbert College – De Pere, Wisconsin

May 2005

Bachelor of Arts Degree, Political Science